

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETEL ITU

SUBJECT: HIGH COST OF CCIR PUBLICATIONS IN 1975

REF: REPORT OF US REPRESENTATIVE ON ITU ADMIN COUNCIL (29TH
SESSION), P. 24

1. CCIR DIRECTOR KIRBY INFORMED TEL ATT DEC 10 THAT PRICE OF
13 VOLUME SET OF CCIR TEXTS OF XIIIITH PLENARY ASSEMBLY (GREEN
BOOKS) HAS BEEN PROPOSED BY GENERAL SECRETARIAT AT 1000 SWISS
FRANCS FOR MEMBERS AND ASSOCIATE MEMBERS AND 1500 SWISS FRANCS
FOR NON-MEMBERS. KIRBY REGARDS THIS PRICE AS TOO HIGH AND REPRESENTING AN EXAGGERATED ESTIMATION OF OVERHEAD COSTS. HE NOTED THAT
29TH ADMIN COUNCIL (SEE REF REPORT) HAD ESTABLISHED THE NEW
SALE PRICE FOR 1975 AS 140 PERCENT OF COST PRICE FOR MEMBERS AND
ASSOCIATE MEMBERS AND 200 PERCENT OF COST PRICE FOR NON-MEMBERS,
PRIVATE OPERATING AGENCIES AND PRIVATE PERSONS. THIS INCREASE,
IT WAS STATED, WAS NECESSARY TO OVERCOME THE EFFECTS OF INFLATION
ON THE 1975 PUBLICATION BUDGET.

2. KIRBY SAID THAT HE FELT THAT NEW PRICES PROPOSED BY GENERAL
SECRETARIAT WERE GOING TO PUT CCIR BOOKS OUT OF REACH OF THEIR
LOGICAL MARKET AND THAT MORE, NOT LESS, DISSEMINATION OF THESE
BOOKS WAS NEEDED. KIRBY FELT THAT PRIVATE PUBLISHERS, UTILIZING
OFFSET PRINTING, COULD PRINT BOOKS AT A LOWER PRICE THAN THAT
QUOTED BY ITU AND HE WAS SURE PUBLISHERS WOULD PICKUP AN OFFICIAL
ITU BOOK AND REPRODUCE IT FOR SALE AT A LOWER PRICE. HE NOTED
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THAT UN AGENCY PUBLICATIONS ARE IN THE PUBLIC DOMAIN AND CANNOT

BE COPYRIGHTED.

3. KIRBY WOULD WELCOME DEPT'S COMMENTS ON THIS PROBLEM WHICH HE
FELT WAS A REAL ONE FOR US GOVERNMENT, AN IMPORTANT BUYER OF CCIR
BOOKS. DALE

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